

in
C I R C U L A R . *in*
the town of
Great Meeting ~~at~~ Faneuil Hall, for ~~abolishing~~ Slavery ~~from~~ the District of Columbia.

A large and overwhelming Meeting of the citizens of Boston and vicinity was held in the old Cradle of Liberty, on Friday evening, Jan. 28, 1842, favorable to the immediate abolition of Slavery in the District of Columbia. The Meeting was called to order by FRANCIS JACKSON, and, on motion of Edmund Quincy,

WILLIAM LLOYD GARRISON was unanimously called to the Chair.

On motion, *Voted*, That there be chosen six Vice Presidents, to be nominated by the Chair. The following persons were then chosen, viz :

FRANCIS JACKSON, }
JOSEPH SOUTHWICK, } Of Massachusetts.
GEORGE BRADBURN, }
COL. J. P. MILLER, of Vermont.
NATHANIEL P. ROGERS, of New Hampshire.
JAMES CANNINGS FULLER, of New York.

The following persons were then appointed Secretaries, viz :

WILLIAM BASSETT, of Lynn,
CHARLES LENOX REMOND, of Salem,
HENRY W. WILLIAMS, of Boston.

The Chairman said he would beg leave to present to the Meeting, for their consideration, the following Resolutions, which expressed the feelings of his own bosom, and the spirit of which he thought should animate the bosom of every friend of Liberty :

1. *Resolved*, That inasmuch as the District of Columbia is neither a part nor under the control of any one State, but belongs to the people of the United States, and is under the exclusive jurisdiction of Congress in all cases whatsoever, it follows that, for the existence of slavery in that District, Congress and the people of the United States are directly responsible ; and at any moment they can constitutionally abolish it.

2. *Resolved*, That, in the awful name of the God of nations, and by every consideration of justice, humanity and religion, we call upon Congress immediately to break the fetters and to undo the heavy burdens which that body has made, and to let the oppressed go free, in the aforesaid District ; and to give no countenance or protection to slavery in any part of the republic.

3. *Resolved*, That the refusal of Congress to receive the petitions of the people, in relation to this great national iniquity and curse, is an act of high-handed usurpation, flagrantly unconstitutional, and not to be endured by a free people ; and, if persisted in much longer, must necessarily lead to the most deplorable consequences.

4. *Resolved*, That the insolent rejection, by Congress, of the resolutions of the Legislatures of Vermont and Massachusetts, in relation to slavery in the District of Columbia, is a bold denial of the sovereignty of those States, a most alarming precedent in the legislation of the country, and a plain demonstration of the fact, that northern liberty is but the football of the slaveholding power.

5. *Resolved*, That the Legislatures of Vermont and Massachusetts cannot tamely submit to such indignities without great criminality, and the exhibition of a cowardly and truckling spirit ; and that, by their allegiance to the principles of the Constitution, by a due regard to their own character, and by the respect which they entertain for their own constituents, they are bound to enter a solemn protest against this despotic procedure, and to warn Congress to pause before again perpetrating it in the manner aforesaid.

6. *Resolved*, That the thanks of the friends of liberty, universally, and especially in Massachusetts, are due to John Quincy Adams, for his bold, faithful and indefatigable advocacy of the right of petition, under circumstances of great difficulty and peril ; and that the Secretaries of this meeting be requested to forward a copy of this resolution to MR. ADAMS, in the name of this meeting, as a slight token of its high appreciation of his conduct in such an emergency, and of its determination to sustain him in every constitutional effort that he may make in favor of the rights of man, irrespective of complexional differences.

7. *Resolved*, That when the Senators and Representatives of this Commonwealth, in Congress, find themselves deprived of the liberty of speech on its floor, and prohibited from defending the right of their constituents to petition that body in a constitutional manner, they ought at once to withdraw, and return to their several homes, leaving the people of Massachusetts to devise such ways and means for a redress of their grievances as they shall deem necessary.

8. *Resolved*, That the union of Liberty and Slavery, in one just and equal compact, is that which it is not in the power of God or men to achieve, because it is a moral impossibility, as much as the peaceful amalgamation of fire and gunpowder ; and, therefore, the American Union is such only in form, but not in substance—a hollow mockery instead of a glorious reality.

9. *Resolved*, That if the South be madly bent upon perpetuating her atrocious slave system, and thereby

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destroying the liberty of speech and of the press, and striking down the rights of northern citizens, the time is rapidly approaching when the American Union will be dissolved in form as it is now in fact.

10. *Resolved*, That until Massachusetts ceases to give her countenance and support to the Southern slave system, by allowing the slave hunter to seize his prey on her soil, and by conceding that a man may be a thing, an article of merchandise, she is to be regarded as recreant to the cause of freedom and humanity, and her people as an organized body of conspirators against the rights of man.

11. *Resolved*, That Massachusetts must wash her hands of all participation in the enslavement of any portion of the human race, in this or any other country.

12. *Resolved*, That the people of this Commonwealth should flood both houses of the State Legislature at its next session, with petitions, calling on them to pass a declaratory law that no slave can breathe on the soil of Massachusetts, and that every bondman shall become free on arriving within her jurisdiction.

The adoption of the above Resolutions was moved and advocated by EDMUND QUINCY, who was followed by Col. J. P. MILLER, of Vermont—GEORGE BRADBURN, of Nantucket—FREDERICK DOUGLAS, a fugitive slave—JAMES CANNINGS FULLER, of Western New York—Mr. EMMONS—WENDELL PHILLIPS, of Boston—and CHARLES LENOX REMOND, of Salem—whose eloquent and thrilling speeches were constantly interrupted by loud and enthusiastic bursts of applause.

The resolutions were adopted by an almost unanimous vote, and in the most impressive manner.

The Irish Address, signed by DANIEL O'CONNELL, Father MATHEW, and sixty thousand other Irishmen, to the Irish residents in the United States, calling upon them unitedly to espouse the Anti-Slavery cause, and to identify themselves with the American Abolitionists, was then read by the Chairman, and was received by the immense assemblage with cheers and loud acclamations of applause. A large number of the Irish inhabitants of Boston and vicinity were present, who responded to the sentiments of the Address, and to those which were uttered by the various speakers, in the most enthusiastic manner.

WENDELL PHILLIPS offered the following resolutions, which he very eloquently advocated, and which were adopted by acclamation :

Resolved, That we rejoice that the voice of O'CONNELL, which now shakes the three kingdoms, has poured across the waters a thunder-peal for the cause of Liberty in our own land; and that Father MATHEW, having lifted, with one hand, five millions of his own countrymen into moral life, has stretched forth the other—which may Heaven make equally potent—to smite off the fetters of the American slave.

Resolved, That we receive, with the deepest gratitude, the names of the sixty thousand Irishmen, who, in the trial-hour of their own struggle for liberty, have not forgotten the slave on this side the water; that we accept, with triumphant exultation, the Address they have forwarded to us, and pledge ourselves to circulate it through the length and breadth of our land, till the pulse of every man, and specially every man who claims Irish parentage, beats true to the claims of patriotism and humanity.

The following resolution was offered by GEORGE BRADBURN, and adopted with great enthusiasm:

Resolved, That this Meeting most cordially wishes Old Ireland success, in all her righteous efforts to redeem the Emerald Isle from every species of British oppression, and especially in the grand movement of DANIEL O'CONNELL, for the repeal of the fraudulent act of Union between his country and England.

On motion of EDMUND QUINCY,

Voted, That the proceedings of this meeting be printed, and signed by the officers of this meeting, and copies transmitted to Daniel O'Connell, and Theobald Matthew, and to our Senators and Representatives in Congress, with a request that they be laid before that body—also, that they be published in the papers of this city.

Charles Lenox Remond moved that the thanks of the assembly be presented to the Mayor and Aldermen, for the use of this Hall on this occasion. The motion was adopted, and the meeting was then dissolved—after which nine cheers were given for the cause of liberty and emancipation. It is estimated that not less than four thousand persons were present on the occasion.

WILLIAM LLOYD GARRISON, *Ch'm.*

WM. BASSETT,
C. L. REMOND,
H. W. WILLIAMS, } *Secretaries.*

Boston, Jan. 29, 1842.

